

**Legislative Bulletin.....April 20, 2010**

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**H.R. 4178 - Deposit Restricted Qualified Tuition Programs Act**  
*(Clever, D-MO)*

**Order of Business:** The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 4178 amends the Federal Deposit Insurance Act and sets requirements for deposit restricted qualified programs. Deposit restricted qualified programs are exempt from federal income tax.

This legislation states that deposit restricted qualified tuition programs are tuition programs that:

- “The cash provided by a contributor to such a qualified tuition program may be invested only in deposits insured by the Corporation;
- The contributor may become a participant in the program by depositing funds through the program into an account at a depository institution participating in the program; and
- “The program may include multiple depository institutions, subject to the requirements of section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended.”

The following would not be defined as a security:

- “The deposits of cash at an insured depository institution relating to a deposit restricted tuition program;
- Any certificate of deposit or other instrument of an insured depository institution evidencing any such deposit; and

- “The rights and obligations of participants in a deposit restricted qualified tuition program arising from section 529 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended.”

**Committee Action:** H.R. 4178 was introduced on December 2, 2009 and referred to the House Financial Services Committee, which took no public action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A score from CBO is unavailable.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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## **H.Res. 1257 - Supporting the goals and ideals of National Financial Literacy Month, 2010 (Hinojosa, D-TX)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1257 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of Financial Literacy Month, including raising public awareness about financial education;
- “Recognizes the importance of managing personal finances, increasing personal savings, and reducing personal debt in the United States; and
- “Requests that the President issue a proclamation calling on the Federal Government, States, localities, schools, nonprofit organizations, businesses, other entities, and the people of the United States to observe the month with appropriate programs and activities with the goal of increasing financial literacy rates for individuals of all ages and walks of life.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “Financially informed individuals are better able to take control of their circumstances, improve their quality of life, and plan for their financial future;

- “Bankers across the United States will teach savings skills to young people on April 27, 2010, during ‘Teach Children to Save Day’, which was launched by the American Bankers Association Education Foundation in April 1997 and has now helped more than 80,000 bankers teach savings skills to more than 3,200,000 young people;
- “Members of the United States House of Representatives established the Financial and Economic Literacy Caucus in February 2005 to provide a forum for interested Members of Congress to review, discuss and recommend financial and economic literacy policies, legislation, and programs; to collaborate with the private sector, and nonprofit and community-based organizations; and to organize and promote financial literacy resolutions, legislation, seminars, and events, such as ‘Financial Literacy Month’ in April 2010, and the annual ‘Financial Literacy Day Fair’ on April 27, 2010.”

### ***Democrat Inconsistency Alert!***

**Debt Expansion:** While House Democrats urge hard working Americans to reduce their own personal debt, they have spent the last three plus years enacting policies to increase the nation’s debt to alarming levels. Specifically, in the past three years, under a Democrat Congress: the national debt has increased by \$4 trillion or 46%, the deficit has increased by \$1.3 trillion or 776%, and the debt limit has increased by \$5.3 trillion or 59%. See [here](#) for a two-pager on the financial record of the Democrat Congress.

**Unaffordable Tax Burden:** One way to help solve the problem of personal debt is to have government take less money, via taxation, out of the family budget. This year, the average American will have to work 99 days just to pay taxes, before that worker can begin to take care of other necessary expenses. Unfortunately, the Democrat Congress has increased taxes by \$670 billion since January 2009 (see [here](#)).

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1257 was introduced on April 15, 2010 and referred to the House Financial Services Committee, which took no public action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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## **H.R. 3553 - Indian Veterans Housing Opportunity Act (Kirkpatrick, D-AZ)**

**Order of Business:** The legislation is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the bill.

**Summary:** H.R. 3553 amends the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act of 1996 to exclude Department of Veterans Affairs' (VA) service related disability benefit payments from income when determining eligibility for housing benefits.

**Additional Information:** Current law considers service related disability benefits as income when determining eligibility under the [Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act](#).

**Committee Action:** H.R. 3553 was introduced on September 10, 2009 and referred to the House Financial Services Committee, which took no public action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** A score from CBO is unavailable.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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## **H.Res. \_\_ - Honoring the life and achievements of Dr. Benjamin Lawson Hooks (Conyers, D-MI)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** The legislative bulletin for this resolution was written based off draft text. The resolution has yet to be introduced. H.Res. \_\_ resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Honors the life and achievements of Dr. Benjamin Lawson Hooks, for his commitment to justice on the bench in Memphis, TN, for his strong work with the NAACP to formulate strategies for eliminating barriers to civil rights, and for his leadership in promoting equal opportunity for all.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “After college, he served in the army during World War II and had the job of guarding Italian prisoners who were able to eat in restaurants that were off limits to him. He found this experience to be humiliating and it deepened his determination to do something about bigotry in the South;
- “From 1949 to 1965 he was one of the few African Americans practicing law in Memphis;
- “Dr. Hooks was also a Baptist minister who pastored at the Greater Middle Baptist Church in Memphis and the Greater New Mount Moriah Baptist Church, in Detroit, MI;
- “Whereas, from 1977-1992, Rev. Hooks was the Executive Director and CEO of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP); and
- “Dr. Hooks received the Presidential Medal of Freedom from President George W. Bush at a White House ceremony in November 2007.”

**Additional Information:** Dr. Benjamin Lawson Hooks was a civil rights leader. He passed away on April 15, 2010 at the age of 85.

**Committee Action:** H.Res. \_\_ has yet to be introduced.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available.

However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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**H.Res. 1104 - Supporting the mission and goals of 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week to increase public awareness of the rights, needs, and concerns of victims and survivors of crime in the United States  
(Costa, D-CA)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1104 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the mission and goals of 2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week to increase public awareness of—
  1. “The impact on victims and survivors of crime; and
  2. “The constitutional and statutory rights and needs of such victims and survivors;
- “Recognizes that fairness, dignity, and respect comprise the very foundation of how victims and survivors of crime should be treated; and
- “Directs the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Office for Victims of Crime within the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “Although our Nation has steadily expanded rights, protections, and services for victims of crime, too many victims are still not able to realize the hope and promise of these expanded rights, protections, and services;
- “Justice systems in the United States should ensure that services are available for all victims of crime, including victims from underserved communities of our Nation;
- “Treating victims of crime with fairness, dignity, and respect, as encouraged and expressed by the theme of 2010 National Crime Victims' Right Week, ‘Crime Victims' Rights: Fairness. Dignity. Respect.’, costs nothing more than taking time to identify victims' needs and concerns, and effective collaboration among justice systems to meet such needs and concerns; and
- “2010 National Crime Victims' Rights Week, April 18 through April 24, 2010, provides an opportunity for justice systems in the United States to strive to reach the goal of justice for all by ensuring that all victims are afforded legal rights and

provided with assistance as they face the financial, physical, spiritual, psychological, and social impact of crime.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1104 was introduced on February 24, 2010 and referred to the House Judiciary Committee, which took no public action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution authorizes no expenditures. The resolution does direct the Clerk of the House of Representatives to transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the Office for Victims of Crime within the Office of Justice Programs of the Department of Justice.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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## **H.Res. 1116 - Supporting the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week (*Lee, D-CA*)**

**Order of Business:** The resolution is scheduled to be considered on Tuesday, April 20, 2010, under a motion to suspend the rules and pass the resolution.

**Summary:** H.Res. 1116 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- “Supports the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “Encourages the President to issue a proclamation in support of the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “Encourages States, territories, possessions of the United States, and localities to support the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week by issuing proclamations designating Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “Encourages media organizations to participate in Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week and help educate the public about multiple sclerosis;
- “Commends the efforts of the States, territories, and possessions of the United States who support the goals and ideals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;

- “Recognizes and reaffirms the Nation's commitment to combating multiple sclerosis by promoting awareness about its causes and risks and by promoting new education programs, supporting research, and expanding access to medical treatment; and
- “Recognizes all people in the United States living with multiple sclerosis, expresses gratitude to their family members and friends who are a source of love and encouragement to them, and salutes the health care professionals and medical researchers who provide assistance to those so afflicted and continue to work to find cures and improve treatments.”

The resolution contains a number of findings, including:

- “The Multiple Sclerosis Coalition, an affiliation of multiple sclerosis organizations dedicated to the enhancement of the quality of life for all those affected by multiple sclerosis, recognizes, and celebrates Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week;
- “The Multiple Sclerosis Coalition's mission is to increase opportunities for cooperation and provide greater opportunity to leverage the effective use of resources for the benefit of the multiple sclerosis community;
- “The goals of Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week are to invite people to join the movement to end multiple sclerosis, encourage everyone to do something to demonstrate their commitment to moving toward a world free of multiple sclerosis, and to acknowledge those who have dedicated their time and talent to help promote multiple sclerosis research and programs; and
- “This year Multiple Sclerosis Awareness Week is recognized during the week of March 8, 2010, through March 14, 2010.”

**Committee Action:** H.Res. 1116 was introduced on February 25, 2010, and referred to the House Energy and Commerce Committee, which took no public action.

**Cost to Taxpayers:** The resolution authorizes no expenditures.

**Does the Bill Expand the Size and Scope of the Federal Government?:** No.

**Does the Bill Contain Any New State-Government, Local-Government, or Private-Sector Mandates?:** No.

**Does the Bill Comply with House Rules Regarding Earmarks/Limited Tax Benefits/Limited Tariff Benefits?:** A committee report citing compliance with the rules regarding earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits is not available. However, the resolution does not contain any earmarks.

**Constitutional Authority:** A committee report citing constitutional authority is unavailable.

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